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23 Sept 53

50X1

C-27994

Country: Czechoslovakia

Subject: Military Installations in Vimberk and Vicinity

Place Acquired: [redacted] 50X1

Date Acquired: [redacted] 50X1

Date of Info: To April 1953

Sou [redacted]

1. [redacted]

Soviet Rocket Base

2. "A base for the Soviet rockets A-9 and A-10 has been under construction near Vimperk since 1951. The first PTP units started work there in 1951. In early 1953 about 250 soldiers and 200 civilian workers were attached to the base, and it was said that there would be 2000 civilian workers by the end of 1953. About 15-20 railway car loads of material -- mostly concrete, sand, iron scaffolding, pipes and electrical wire -- arrive daily from Vimperk. People living near the base believe that the workers are building a new airfield runway. The rocket base is to be protected by a network of bunkers and fortresses. [redacted]

[Available on loan from CIA Library as Attachment A is the informant's rough sketch of this rocket base.] The following legend applies: 50X1

1. "House of a roadbuilder. Fenced.
2. "Former restaurant which provides sleeping quarters for workers and offices for construction officials. Dimensions: about 35x8m. The roof is covered with red 'eternit'.
3. "Abandoned building.
4. "New building, 30x10m, part of the construction project of the base. Not inhabited.
5. "New building, 25x7m, part of the construction project.
6. "Building under construction, part of the project.
7. "Funicular railway running south to Barenloch and Brloch. The village of Barenloch is four or five km away. This funicular railway was put into operation September 1952. It is used to bring material from Brloch. The small railway station at Vimperk could not handle the construction needs of the rocket base.

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8. "Storage facilities for concrete and lime.
9. "Workshops for truck repairs. Garages.
10. "Barracks for PTP soldiers." 7

Military Barracks, Vimperk

3. "The military barracks in Vimperk occupy an area about 250 x 150 m. Many new installations were built in 1949-51. About 2500 soldiers are stationed there; most are infantry men, but there are tank soldiers. In early 1953 there were at the barracks three old German tanks and about 75 trucks. About one-third of the trucks were Canadian trucks from World War II. The others were of Czechoslovak make: Praga RN or RND. My home was within 20 m of these barracks.

[Available on loan from CIA Library as Attachment B is the informant's rough sketch of the military barracks at Vimperk. The following legend applies:

1. "Exercise ground, 25 x 25 m.
2. "One-story barracks for soldiers, 45 x 8 m.
3. "Eight garages for trucks - mostly RN. 35 x 7 x 6 m.
4. "Workshop for automobiles, 8 x 7 x 4 m.
5. "Buildings, 50 x 8 x 9 m., including stables for 40 horses, topped by a hayloft.
6. "Kennel for 50 dogs, 35 x 4 x 4 m.
6a. "Dog runs.
7. "Barracks for soldiers, 35 x 5 x 5 m.
7a. "Kitchen, 15 x 5 x 5 m.
7b. "Guard room, 10 x 5 x 5 m.
8. "Pigeon cote for 200 pigeons.
9. "Hen house, 150 hens.
10. "Dispensary for the soldiers, 25 x 5 x 6 m.
10a. "Military barracks, 25 x 5 x 6 m.
10b. "Kitchen
10c. "Guard room
10d. "Military jail.
10e. "Offices
11. "One-story military barrack, 15 x 12 m.
12. "Exercise ground, 40 x 30 m.
13. "DOZ (military police) offices.
14. "Stables for 30 horses, 35 x 6 x 5 m.
15. "Depot for [illegible] carriages", 35 x 5 x 5 m.
16. "One-story headquarters building for the military barracks.
17. "Garages for RN trucks, 35 x 6 x 5 m.
18. "Military clothing depot, 8 x 5 x 6 m.
19. "Repair shops for military vehicles, 12 x 7 x 5 m.
20. "Concrete bunker surrounded by barbed wire fence, the bunker was used prior to 1950 as a depot for explosives.
21. "Warehouse (unknown purpose), 25 x 5 x 7 m.

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22. "Ammunition depot, red roof. Red flag.
23. "Warehouse, 8 x 5 x 8 m.
24. "Guard room.
25. "Parking lot for military vehicles.
26. "Broadcasting antenna on mast 20 m high. [The informant did not know location of transmitting station.]

4. "I have seen on the exercise grounds anti-tank guns (German Pak type) and mortars.

Military Observation Post

5. "Southeast from Vimperk, on the top of a hill about 350 m from the railway station, is a trench, six m in diameter and about one m deep. A glassed-in building set within this trench is used as a military observation post. About 10 m from this building is a wooden cross about seven m high. About 30 m from the observation post is a barbed wire fence two m high. A telephone line links the post with the military barracks near the Vimperk railway station.

Military Shirt Factory

6. "About 100 m west of the Vimperk railway station is the Sumavan Factory which produces shirts for the Czechoslovak Army. This is its sole production. There are about 400 employees, mostly women.

PS Installations

7. "On the west side of the Vimperk - Ceske Zleby highway, about 150 m from the church of Ceske Zleby, a former restaurant and the wooden house behind are being used as a PS (Border Police) station. About 60 soldiers are housed there. The unit has dogs.

8. "On the east side of Horni Svetle Hory, between the village and the forest, there is a military barrack with 50 PS soldiers.

9. "North of Zdarek and the mountain of Bavorsky Les there is a military barrack with about 50 PS soldiers.

10. "West of the crossroad Knizeci Plane - Kunzvart is a barrack for about 50 PS soldiers. In the forest southeast of the village of Knizeci Plane is a barrack with about 30 PS soldiers. The church tower in Knizeci Plane is used as a PS observation Post. It has a heavy machine gun.

11. "About 100 PS soldiers are housed in the former Peschel Hostel northwest of Lucina and in a barrack near this hostel.

12. "In the village of Vilda all houses south of the church and three restaurants have been requisitioned by PS soldiers.

13. "In Kunzvart on the northern side of the Kunzvart-Vimperk highway, about the third building along the highway, are PS garages. South of the Kunzvart church on the road toward the square the PS has requisitioned the Hranicar Hotel and the next eight houses. About 150 men are stationed there with their dogs. At the foot of

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this hill behind the new bridge on the southern side of the road via Landstrasse is a military barrack 100 x 6 x 6 m. It is surrounded by three fences: two barbed wire and one wooden. There is a glass observation post on the hill with a tower 15 m high. About 400 m east of the Landstrasse is a hill crowned by three maples. The glass sides of a military observation post can be seen through the trees."

- end -

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